

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended): A method, for use in a mobile data communication system that includes: first and second subscriber registers (HLR1, HLR2) for maintaining subscriber records ~~defining a subscriber identity module registry;~~

a message transmission system (SMSC) for transmitting messages in the communication system; and

a mobile station (MS) for use by a subscriber in effecting mobile communications through said mobile data communication system

said method being for controlling a subscriber identity module (SIM) ~~connected~~ attached to said mobile station (MS), in which stores subscriber identity module (SIM) is stored subscription data comprising a first subscriber identity code (IMSI1) and an encryption code key (K_i) corresponding to a first subscription for the mobile station subscriber, ~~and associated with the subscriber identity module (SIM),~~ such that when said first subscription is opened for said mobile station subscriber, a record of data corresponding to said first subscription, with said record comprising:

a first subscription-specific call number (MSISDNx),

said encryption code key (K_i), and

said first subscriber identity code (IMSI1) for said mobile station subscriber, is created in said first subscriber register (HLR1);

said method comprising the steps of:

a.) opening a second subscription for said mobile station subscriber;

b.) creating in said second subscriber register (HLF2) a record of data corresponding to said opened second subscription, and comprising:

- a second subscription-specific call number (MSISDN),
- said encryption code key (K_i), and
- a second subscriber identity code (IMSI2) for said mobile station subscriber;

c.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system to the mobile station (MS) a message (SMS) directed addressed to said first subscription-specific call number (MSISDNx), said message and instructing to change said first subscriber identity code (IMSI1) comprised in said subscription data stored in said subscriber identity module (SIM) into said second subscriber identity code (IMSI2) ~~a change in the data stored in said subscriber identity module from data corresponding to said first subscription, to data corresponding to said second subscription; and~~

d.) changing, at said subscriber identity module (SIM) attached to said mobile station (MS) and in response to receipt of said message (SMS) directed to said first subscription, said first subscriber identity code (IMSI1) into said second subscriber identity code (IMSI2). ~~the data stored in said subscriber identity module to the data corresponding to said second subscription.~~

2. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

e.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system a first acknowledgement of receipt of said message (SMS), and of success in changing the stored data in said subscriber identity module; and

f.) removing from said first subscriber register (HLR1), in response to receipt of said acknowledgement, the record of data corresponding to said first subscription.

3. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

e.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system a first acknowledgment of receipt of said message (SMS), and of success in changing the stored data in said subscriber identity module;

f.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system a second message (SMS2) directed to said second subscription;

g.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system a second acknowledgement of receipt of said second message (SMS2); and

h.) removing from said first subscriber register (HLR1), in response to receipt of either said first acknowledgment or second acknowledgement, the record of data corresponding to said first subscription.

4. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

e.) waiting, following said transmitting of said message (SMS) directed to said first subscription, for a predetermined period of time for receipt of said first acknowledgement; and

f.) transmitting through said mobile data communication system a second message (SMS2) directed to said second subscription, if said first acknowledgment is not received within said predetermined period of time.

5. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

g.) detecting when said second subscription is attached to said mobile data communication system; and

h.) removing from said first subscriber register (HLR1) the record of data corresponding to the first subscription upon detection that the second subscription is attached to the communication system.

6. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said changing step (d.) further comprises removing from said subscriber identity module a temporary subscriber identity code (TMSI) stored in said subscriber identity module with said first subscription data.

7. (Previously Presented): The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said mobile data communication system comprises a Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) mobile communication system.

8. (Currently Amended): A mobile data communication system comprising:

a.) first and second subscriber registers (HLR1, HLR2) for maintaining subscriber records defining a subscriber identity module registry;

b.) a message transmission system (SMSC) for transmission of messages in said mobile data communication system;

c.) a mobile station for use by a subscriber in effecting mobile communications through said mobile data communication system;

d.) a subscriber identity module (SIM), connected to said mobile station, for storing in said subscriber identity module data comprising:

~~ii.)~~ i) a first subscriber identity code (IMSI1), and

~~iii.)~~ ii) an encryption code key (K_i) corresponding to a first subscription for said mobile station subscriber and associated with said subscriber identity module (SIM), in which, when said first subscription is opened for said mobile station subscriber, a record of data corresponding to said first subscription, and comprising:

a first subscription-specific call number (MSISDN_x),

said encryption code key (K_i), and

said first subscriber identity code (IMSI1) for said mobile station subscriber;

is created in said first subscriber register (HLR1),

e.) a control device for controlling said subscriber identity module (SIM), and comprising:

i.) first means for opening in said second subscriber register (HLR2) a record of data corresponding to said opened second subscription with said record of data comprising:

a second subscription-specific call number (MSISDN),

said encryption key (K_i),

a second subscriber identity code (IMSI2) for said mobile station subscriber;

ii) second means for generating a message (SMS) to be directed through said mobile data communication system to said first subscription and instructing a change in the

data stored in said subscriber identity module from data corresponding to said first subscription to data corresponding to said second subscription; and

iii) third means for changing the data stored in said subscriber identity module (SIM) from data corresponding to said first subscription to data corresponding to said second subscription.

9. (Previously Presented): The mobile data communication system of claim 8, wherein said control device is disposed in conjunction with a billing and customer control system of said mobile data communication system.

10. (Previously Presented): The mobile data communication system of claim 8, wherein said message transmission system comprises a short message system.